



**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

Date of Notice: **February 10, 2016**

PUBLIC NOTICE OF A  
DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (PEIR)  
I.O. No.: 21003699

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The City of San Diego Planning Department has prepared a draft PEIR for the following project and is inviting your comments regarding the adequacy of the document. The draft PEIR and associated technical appendices have been placed on the City of San Diego Planning Department website under the heading "Draft CEQA Documents" and can be accessed using the following link:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/programs/ceqa/index.shtml>

The DEIR public notice has also been placed on the City Clerk website at:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/city-clerk/officialdocs/notices/index.shtml>

**Your comments must be received by Monday, April 11, 2016** to be included in the final document considered by the decision-making authorities. Please send your written comments to the following address: **Myra Herrmann, Environmental Planner, City of San Diego - Planning Department, 1010 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite 1200, East Tower, MS 413, San Diego, CA 92101** or email your comments to [PlanningCEQA@sandiego.gov](mailto:PlanningCEQA@sandiego.gov) with the Project Name (PURE WATER PROGRAM) and Project Number (438188) in the subject line.

**General Project Information:**

- Project Name: **PURE WATER PROGRAM**
- Project No. 438188/SCH No. 2014111068
- Community Plan Areas: Citywide
- Council Districts: All Council Districts

**Applicant: CITY OF SAN DIEGO - PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT**

**Subject: CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE Pure Water San Diego Program (Pure Water Program).** The Pure Water Program is the City of San Diego Public Utilities Department (PUD) proposed program to provide a safe, secure, and sustainable local drinking water supply for San Diego. Advanced water purification technology will be used to produce potable water from recycled water. The Pure Water

Program consists of the design and construction of new advanced water treatment facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, pump stations, transmission lines, and pipelines.

The City of San Diego (City) and its regional partners face significant issues with water supply and wastewater treatment. Water is critical to the health, safety, and quality of life of people living in the San Diego region. Currently eighty five percent (85%) of the region's water supply is imported. The region's reliance on imported water causes our water supply to be vulnerable to impacts from shortages and susceptible to price increases beyond our control. As sources of local water supply are few, the City of San Diego has explored non-potable and potable reuse options of treated water. Water reuse is proven, safe, reliable, and is currently in use in other communities in the United States and around the world.

A decision must be made regarding the future treatment process at the City of San Diego's Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant (PLWTP). The PLWTP operates with a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 301(h) modified National Pollutant Elimination Discharge System (NPDES) permit which allows the City to operate without full secondary treatment. The modified permit expired on July 30, 2015. PUD submitted a new permit application and is working with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as well as with local environmental groups to gain support for the concept of "secondary equivalency" within the Clean Water Act - a plan to meet modified treatment standards that would be the same as if the existing 240 million gallon per day (mdg) PLWTP were converted to secondary treatment standards.

The Pure Water Program is a significant water and wastewater Capital Improvement Program that will create 83 million gallons per day of locally controlled water and reduce flows to the PLWTP which would reduce total suspended solids discharged and recycle a valuable and limited resource that is currently discharged to the ocean. The Pure Water Program is a twenty year program that will involve the planning, design, and construction of new advanced water treatment facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, pump stations, and pipelines. The Pure Water program will also include property and easement acquisition, discretionary permitting, facility startup, testing, operation and maintenance of new facilities, and significant public education and community engagement.

**Recommended Finding:** The draft PEIR concludes that the project would result in significant environmental impacts to the following areas: **Land Use, Air Quality/Odor, Health and Safety, Biological Resources, Noise, Historical Resources, Hydrology and Water Quality, Paleontological Resources, Public Utilities, Visual Effects and Neighborhood Character, Geology/Soils, and Transportation, Circulation and Parking.** All other impacts analyzed in this EIR were found to be less than significant.

**Availability in Alternative Format:** To request this Notice, the draft PEIR and/or supporting documents in alternative format, call the Planning Department at 619-235-5200 or (800) 735-2929 (TEXT TELEPHONE).

**Additional Information:** For environmental review information, contact Myra Hermann at (619) 446-5372. The draft PEIR and supporting documents may be reviewed, or purchased for the cost of reproduction, at the Planning Department. If you are interested in obtaining additional copies of the Compact Disk (CD) with technical appendices, a hard-copy of the draft PEIR, or the separately bound technical appendices, they can be purchased for an additional cost. For information regarding public hearings on this project, contact Project Manager, Keli Balo, at (858) 292-6423 or via email: [kbalo@sandiego.gov](mailto:kbalo@sandiego.gov). Additional information regarding the Pure Water Program can be found on the following website:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/water/purewater/index.shtml>

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**February 10, 2016.**

Martha Blake  
Interim Deputy Director  
Planning Department